Senator Beverly Ann Evans proposes the following substitute bill:

1	OIL AND GAS RELATED TAXES AND FEES
2	2004 GENERAL SESSION
3	STATE OF UTAH
4	Sponsor: Beverly Ann Evans
5 6	LONG TITLE
7	General Description:
8	This bill amends provisions related to fees and severance taxes imposed on oil and gas.
9	Highlighted Provisions:
10	This bill:
11	 addresses how a fee on oil and gas is calculated;
12	 modifies definition provisions; and
13	 addresses the imposition of the severance tax on oil and gas including:
14	• how the severance tax is calculated;
15	• the valuation of oil and gas for severance tax purposes; and
16	• the filing of required statements.
17	Monies Appropriated in this Bill:
18	None
19	Other Special Clauses:
20	This bill has retrospective operation to January 1, 2004.
21	Utah Code Sections Affected:
22	AMENDS:
23	40-6-14, as last amended by Chapter 274, Laws of Utah 2003
24	59-5-101, as last amended by Chapter 271, Laws of Utah 1996
25	59-5-102, as last amended by Chapters 273 and 274, Laws of Utah 2003

26	59-5-104, as last amended by Chapter 341, Laws of Utah 1995
27	ENACTS:
28	59-5-103.1 , Utah Code Annotated 1953
29	REPEALS:
30	59-5-103, as last amended by Chapter 247, Laws of Utah 1990
31	
32	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
33	Section 1. Section 40-6-14 is amended to read:
34	40-6-14. Fee on oil and gas Payment of fee Collection Penalty and interest
35	on delinquencies Payment when product taken in-kind Interests exempt.
36	(1) (a) There is levied a fee [of .002 of the value at the well of oil and gas: (a)] as
37	provided in Subsection (1)(b) for oil and gas:
38	(i) produced: and
39	(ii) (A) saved;
40	[(b)] <u>(B)</u> sold; or
41	[(c)] (C) transported from the [premises] field in Utah where the oil or gas is produced.
42	(b) The fee imposed under this Subsection (1) is equal to the product of:
43	(i) .002; and
44	(ii) the value of the oil or gas determined in accordance with Section 59-5-103.
45	(2) (a) The State Tax Commission shall administer the collection of the fee, including
46	any penalties and interest.
47	(b) The monies collected shall be deposited in the Oil and Gas Conservation Account
48	created in Section 40-6-14.5.
49	(c) Time periods for the State Tax Commission to allow a refund or assess the fee shall
50	be determined in accordance with Section 59-5-114.
51	(3) (a) Each person having an ownership interest in oil or gas at the time of production
52	shall be liable for a proportionate share of the fee equivalent to [his] that person's ownership
53	interest.
54	(b) As used in this section "ownership interest" means any:
55	(i) working interest;
56	(ii) royalty interest;

57	(iii) interest in payments out of production; or
58	(iv) any other interest in the oil or gas, or in the proceeds of the oil or gas, subject to
59	the fee.
60	(4) (a) The operator, on behalf of the operator and any person having an ownership
61	interest in the oil or gas, shall pay the fee to the State Tax Commission:
62	(i) quarterly; and
63	(ii) as provided in Subsections (4)(b) and (c).
64	(b) For purposes of Subsection (4)(a), the quarterly fee payments are due as follows:
65	(i) for the quarter beginning on January 1 and ending on March 31, on or before June 1;
66	(ii) for the quarter beginning on April 1 and ending on June 30, on or before September
67	1;
68	(iii) for the quarter beginning on July 1 and ending on September 30, on or before
69	December 1; and
70	(iv) for the quarter beginning on October 1 and ending on December 31, on or before
71	March 1 of the next year.
72	(c) The fee required by this section shall be reported to the State Tax Commission on
73	forms provided by the State Tax Commission.
74	(5) (a) Any fee not paid within the time specified shall:
75	(i) carry a penalty as provided in Section 59-1-401; and
76	(ii) bear interest at the rate and in the manner prescribed in Section 59-1-402.
77	(b) (i) The fee, together with the interest, shall be a lien upon the oil or gas against
78	which the fee and interest are levied.
79	(ii) The operator shall deduct from any amounts due to the persons owning an interest
80	in the oil or gas, or in the proceeds at the time of production, a proportionate amount of the
81	charge before making payment to the persons.
82	(6) (a) When product is taken in-kind by an interest owner who is not the operator and
83	the operator cannot determine the value of the in-kind product, the operator shall:
84	(i) report 100% of the production;
85	(ii) deduct the product taken in-kind; and
86	(iii) pay the levy on the difference.
87	(b) The interest owner who takes the product in-kind shall file a report and pay the levy

88	on the interest owner's share of production excluded from the operator's report.
89	(7) This section shall apply to any interest in oil or gas produced in the state except:
90	(a) any interest of the United States;
91	(b) any interest of the state or a political subdivision of the state in any oil or gas or in
92	the proceeds of the oil or gas;
93	(c) any interest of any Indian or Indian tribe in any oil or gas or in the proceeds
94	produced from land subject to the supervision of the United States; or
95	(d) oil or gas used in producing or drilling operations or for repressuring or recycling
96	purposes.
97	Section 2. Section 59-5-101 is amended to read:
98	59-5-101. Definitions.
99	As used in this part:
100	(1) "Board" means the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining created in Section 40-6-4.
101	(2) "Condensate" means those hydrocarbons, regardless of gravity, that occur naturally
102	in the gaseous phase in the reservoir that are separated from the natural gas as liquids through
103	the process of condensation either in the reservoir, in the wellbore, or at the surface in field
104	separators.
105	(3) "Crude oil" means those hydrocarbons, regardless of gravity, that occur naturally in
106	the liquid phase in the reservoir and are produced and recovered at the wellhead in liquid form.
107	[(2)] (4) "Development well" means any oil and gas producing well other than a
108	wildcat well.
109	[(3)] (5) "Division" means the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining established under Title
110	40, Chapter 6.
111	[(4)] (6) "Enhanced recovery project" means:
112	(a) the injection of liquids or hydrocarbon or nonhydrocarbon gases directly into a
113	reservoir for the purpose of:
114	(i) augmenting reservoir energy[;]:
115	(ii) modifying the properties of the fluids or gases in a reservoir[;]; or
116	(iii) changing the reservoir conditions to increase the recoverable oil, gas, or oil and
117	gas through the joint use of two or more well bores; and
118	(b) a project initially approved by the board as a new or expanded enhanced recovery

119	project on or after January 1, 1996.
120	[(5)] (7) (a) "Gas" means:
121	(i) natural gas [or];
122	(ii) natural gas liquids: or
123	(iii) any mixture [thereof, but] of natural gas and natural gas liquids.
124	(b) "Gas" does not include solid hydrocarbons.
125	[(a) "Natural gas" means those hydrocarbons, other than oil and other than natural gas
126	liquids separated from natural gas, that occur naturally in the gaseous phase in the reservoir and
127	are produced and recovered at the wellhead in gaseous form.]
128	[(b) "Natural gas liquids" means those hydrocarbons initially in reservoir natural gas,
129	regardless of gravity, that are separated in gas processing plants from the natural gas as liquids
130	at the surface through the process of condensation, absorption, adsorption, or other methods.]
131	[(6)] (8) "Incremental production" means that part of production, certified by the
132	Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, which is achieved from an enhanced recovery project that
133	would not have economically occurred under the reservoir conditions existing before the
134	project and that has been approved by the division as incremental production.
135	[(7) "Net-back method" means a method for calculating the fair market value of oil or
136	gas at the well. Under this method, costs of transportation, not to exceed 50% of the value of
137	the oil or gas, and processing shall be deducted from the proceeds received for the oil or gas
138	and any extracted or processed products, or from the value of the oil or gas or any extracted or
139	processed products at the first point at which the fair-market value for those products is
140	determined by a sale pursuant to an arm's-length contract or comparison to other sales of those
141	products. Processing and transportation costs shall be deducted only from the value of the
142	processed or transported product.]
143	(9) "Natural gas" means those hydrocarbons, other than oil and other than natural gas
144	liquids separated from natural gas, that occur naturally in the gaseous phase in the reservoir and
145	are produced and recovered at the wellhead in gaseous form.
146	(10) "Natural gas liquids" means those hydrocarbons initially in reservoir natural gas,
147	regardless of gravity, that are separated in gas processing plants from the natural gas as liquids
148	at the surface through the process of condensation, absorption, adsorption, or other methods.
149	$[\frac{(8)}{(11)(a)}$ "Oil" means:

150	(i) crude oil [or];
151	(ii) condensate; or
152	(iii) any mixture [thereof, but] of crude oil and condensate.
153	(b) "Oil" does not include solid hydrocarbons.
154	[(a) "Crude oil" means those hydrocarbons, regardless of gravity, that occur naturally in
155	the liquid phase in the reservoir and are produced and recovered at the wellhead in liquid
156	form.]
157	[(b) "Condensate" means those hydrocarbons, regardless of gravity, that occur naturally
158	in the gaseous phase in the reservoir that are separated from the natural gas as liquids through
159	the process of condensation either in the reservoir, in the wellbore, or at the surface in field
160	separators.]
161	[(9)] (12) "Oil or gas field" means a geographical area overlying oil or gas structures.
162	The boundaries of oil or gas fields shall conform with the boundaries as fixed by the Board and
163	Division of Oil, Gas and Mining under Title 40, Chapter 6[-], Board and Division of Oil, Gas
164	and Mining.
165	(13) "Operator" means any person engaged in the business of operating an oil or gas
166	well, regardless of whether the person is:
167	(a) a working interest owner;
168	(b) an independent contractor; or
169	(c) acting in a capacity similar to Subsection (13)(a) or (b) as determined by the
170	commission by rule made in accordance with Title 63, Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative
171	Rulemaking Act.
172	[(10)] (14) "Owner" means any person having a working interest, royalty interest,
173	payment out of production, or any other interest in the oil or gas produced or extracted from an
174	oil or gas well in the state, or in the proceeds of this production.
175	[(11) "Processing] (15) (a) Subject to Subsections (15)(b) and (c), "processing costs"
176	means the reasonable actual costs of processing [gas. Processing costs determined by] natural
177	gas to remove:
178	(i) natural gas liquids; or
179	(ii) contaminants.
180	(b) If processing costs are determined on the basis of an arm's-length contract [are],

181	processing costs are the actual costs. [Where processing costs are not determined by]
182	(c) (i) If processing costs are determined on a basis other than an arm's-length contract,
183	[including those situations where the producer performs the processing for himself, the actual
184	costs of processing shall be] processing costs are those reasonable costs associated with [the]:
185	(A) actual operating and maintenance expenses, including gas used or consumed in
186	processing;
187	(B) overhead directly attributable and allocable to the operation and maintenance[;];
188	and [either]
189	(C) (I) depreciation and a return on undepreciated capital investment[;]: or
190	(II) a cost equal to a return on the investment in the processing facilities as determined
191	by the [tax] commission. [The tax commission shall adopt rules to implement this definition,
192	and may adopt federal regulations where applicable.]
193	(ii) Subsection (15)(c)(i) includes situations where the producer performs the
194	processing for the producer's product.
195	[(12)] (16) "Producer" means any working interest owner in any lands in any oil or gas
196	field from which gas or oil is produced.
197	[(13)] (17) "Recompletion" means any downhole operation that is:
198	(a) conducted to reestablish the producibility or serviceability of a well in any geologic
199	interval; and
200	(b) approved by the division as a recompletion.
201	[(14)] (18) "Royalty interest owner" means the owner of an interest in oil or gas, or in
202	the proceeds of production from the oil or gas who does not have the obligation to share in the
203	expenses of developing and operating the property.
204	[(15)] (19) "Solid hydrocarbons" means:
205	<u>(i)</u> coal[,];
206	(ii) gilsonite[,];
207	(iii) ozocerite[,];
208	(iv) elaterite[,];
209	(v) oil shale[;]:
210	(vi) tar sands[;]; and

211 (vii) all other hydrocarbon substances that occur naturally in solid form.

212	[(16)] <u>(20)</u> "Stripper well" means:
213	(a) an oil well whose average daily production for the days the well has produced has
214	been 20 barrels or less of crude oil a day during any consecutive 12-month period; or
215	(b) a gas well whose average daily production for the days the well has produced has
216	been 60 MCF or less of natural gas a day during any consecutive 90-day period.
217	[(17) "Transportation] (21) (a) Subject to Subsections (21)(b) and (c), "transportation
218	costs" means the reasonable actual costs of transporting oil or gas products from the well to the
219	point of sale [except the transportation allowance deduction may not exceed 50% of the value
220	of the oil or gas. Transportation costs determined by].
221	(b) If transportation costs are determined on the basis of an arm's-length contract,
222	transportation costs are the actual costs. [Where transportation costs are not determined by]
223	(c) (i) If transportation costs are determined on a basis other than an arm's-length
224	contract[, including those situations where the producer performs the transportation service for
225	himself, the actual costs of transportation shall be], transportation costs are those reasonable
226	costs associated with [the]:
227	(A) actual operating and maintenance expenses, including fuel used or consumed in
228	transporting the oil or gas;
229	(B) overhead costs directly attributable and allocable to the operation and
230	maintenance[,]; and [either]
231	(\underline{C}) depreciation and a return on undepreciated capital investment[, or a cost equal to a
232	return on the investment in the transportation system as determined by the commission. The
233	tax commission shall adopt rules to implement this definition, and may adopt federal
234	regulations where applicable].
235	(ii) Subsection (23)(c)(i) includes situations where the producer performs the
236	transportation for the producer's product.
237	(d) Regardless of whether transportation costs are determined on the basis of an arm's
238	length contract or a basis other than an arm's length contract, transportation costs include:
239	(i) carbon dioxide removal;
240	(ii) compression;
241	(iii) dehydration;
242	(iv) gathering;

243	(v) separating;
244	(vi) treating; or
245	(vii) a process similar to Subsections (21)(d)(i) through (vi), as determined by the
246	commission by rule made in accordance with Title 63, Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative
247	Rulemaking Act.
248	[(18)] (22) "Tribe" means the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation.
249	[(19) "Value at the well" means the value of oil or gas at the point production is
250	completed.]
251	[(20)] (23) "Well or wells" means any extractive means from which oil or gas is
252	produced or extracted, located within an oil or gas field, and operated by one person.
253	[(21)] (24) "Wildcat well" means an oil and gas producing well which is drilled and
254	completed in a pool, as defined under Section 40-6-2, in which a well has not been previously
255	completed as a well capable of producing in commercial quantities.
256	[(22)] (25) "Working interest owner" means the owner of an interest in oil or gas
257	burdened with a share of the expenses of developing and operating the property.
258	[(23)] (26) (a) "Workover" means any downhole operation that is:
259	(i) conducted to sustain, restore, or increase the producibility or serviceability of a well
260	in the geologic intervals in which the well is currently completed; and
261	(ii) approved by the division as a workover.
262	(b) "Workover" does not include operations that are conducted primarily as routine
263	maintenance or to replace worn or damaged equipment.
264	Section 3. Section 59-5-102 is amended to read:
265	59-5-102. Severance tax Rate Computation Annual exemption Tax credit
266	Deduction for processing costs and transportation costs Study by Tax Review
267	Commission.
268	(1) [(a)] Each person owning an interest, working interest, royalty interest, payments
269	out of production, or any other interest, in oil or gas produced from a well in the state, or in the
270	proceeds of the production, shall pay to the state a severance tax on the basis of the value[, at
271	the well,] determined under Section 59-5-103 of the oil or gas:
272	(a) produced[,]: and
273	<u>(b) (i)</u> saved[, and];

274	(ii) sold; or
275	(iii) transported from the field where the substance was produced [as provided in this
276	section].
277	[(b) Beginning January 1, 1992, the]
278	(2) (a) The severance tax rate for oil is as follows:
279	(i) 3% of the value of the oil up to and including the first \$13 per barrel for oil; and
280	(ii) 5% of the value of the oil from \$13.01 and above per barrel for oil.
281	[(c) Beginning January 1, 1992, the]
282	(b) The severance tax rate for natural gas is as follows:
283	(i) 3% of the value of the natural gas up to and including the first \$1.50 per MCF for
284	gas; and
285	(ii) 5% of the value of the natural gas from \$1.51 and above per MCF for gas.
286	[(d) Beginning January 1, 1992, the]
287	(c) The severance tax rate for natural gas liquids is 4% of the [taxable] value [for] of
288	the natural gas liquids.
289	[(e)] (3) If oil or gas is shipped outside the state:
290	[(i)] (a) the shipment constitutes a sale; and
291	[(ii)] (b) the oil or gas is subject to the tax imposed by this section.
292	[(f) (i)] (4) (a) Except as provided in Subsection $[(1)(f)(ii)] (4)(b)$, if the oil or gas is
293	stockpiled, the tax is not imposed until the oil or gas is:
294	$\left[\frac{(A)}{(A)}\right]$ (i) sold;
295	[(B)] <u>(ii)</u> transported; or
296	[(C)] <u>(iii)</u> delivered.
297	[(ii)] (b) Notwithstanding Subsection [(1)(f)(i)] (4)(a), if oil or gas is stockpiled for
298	more than two years, the oil or gas is subject to the tax imposed by this section.
299	$\left[\frac{(2)}{(2)}\right]$ A tax is not imposed under this section upon:
300	(a) the first \$50,000 annually in gross value of each well or wells as defined in this
301	part, to be prorated among the owners in proportion to their respective interests in the
302	production or in the proceeds of the production;
303	(b) stripper wells, unless the exemption prevents the severance tax from being treated
304	as a deduction for federal tax purposes;

305	[(c) the first six months of production for wells started after January 1, 1984, but before
306	January 1, 1990;]
307	[(d)] (c) the first 12 months of production for wildcat wells started after January 1,
308	1990; or
309	[(e)] (d) the first six months of production for development wells started after January
310	1, 1990.
311	[(3)] (6) (a) Subject to Subsections [(3)] (6)(b) and (c), a working interest owner who
312	pays for all or part of the expenses of a recompletion or workover may claim a nonrefundable
313	tax credit equal to 20% of the amount paid.
314	(b) The tax credit under Subsection $[(3)]$ (6)(a) for each recompletion or workover may
315	not exceed \$30,000 per well during each calendar year.
316	(c) If any amount of tax credit a taxpayer is allowed under this Subsection $[(3)]$ (6)
317	exceeds the taxpayer's tax liability under this part for the calendar year for which the taxpayer
318	claims the tax credit, the amount of tax credit exceeding the taxpayer's tax liability for the
319	calendar year may be carried forward for the next three calendar years.
320	[(4)] (7) A 50% reduction in the tax rate is imposed upon the incremental production
321	achieved from an enhanced recovery project.
322	$\left[\frac{(5)}{(8)}\right]$ The taxes imposed by this section are:
323	(a) in addition to all other taxes provided by law; and
324	(b) delinquent, unless otherwise deferred, on June 1 next succeeding the calendar year
325	when the oil or gas is:
326	(i) [(A)] produced; <u>and</u>
327	$\left[\frac{\text{(B)}}{\text{(ii)}(A)}\right]$ saved; $\left[\frac{\text{and}}{\text{and}}\right]$
328	$\left[\frac{(C)}{(B)}\right]$ sold; or
329	[(ii)] (C) transported from the [premises] field.
330	[(6)] (9) With respect to the tax imposed by this section on each owner of oil or gas or
331	in the proceeds of the production of those substances produced in the state, each owner is liable
332	for the tax in proportion to the owner's interest in the production or in the proceeds of the
333	production.
334	[(7)] (10) The tax imposed by this section shall be reported and paid by each producer
335	that takes oil or gas in kind pursuant to agreement on behalf of the producer and on behalf of

336	each owner entitled to participate in the oil or gas sold by the producer or transported by the
337	producer from the field where the oil or gas is produced.
338	$\left[\frac{(8)}{(11)}\right]$ Each producer shall deduct the tax imposed by this section from the amounts
339	due to other owners for the production or the proceeds of the production.
339 340	[(9)] (12) (a) The Tax Review Commission shall review the tax provided for in this
340 341	
	part on or before the October 2008 interim meeting.
342	(b) The Tax Review Commission shall address in its review the following statutory
343	provisions:
344	(i) the severance tax rate structure provided for in this section;
345	(ii) the exemptions provided for in Subsection $[(2)]$ (5);
346	(iii) the <u>tax</u> credit provided for in Subsection [(3)] (6), including:
347	(A) the cost of the <u>tax</u> credit;
348	(B) the purpose and effectiveness of the \underline{tax} credit; and
349	(C) whether the <u>tax</u> credit benefits the state;
350	(iv) the tax rate reduction provided for in Subsection $[(4)]$ (7);
351	(v) other statutory provisions or issues as determined by the Tax Review Commission;
352	and
353	(vi) whether the statutory provisions the Tax Review Commission reviews under this
354	Subsection [(9)] <u>(12)</u> should be:
355	(A) continued;
356	(B) modified; or
357	(C) repealed.
358	(c) The Tax Review Commission shall report its findings and recommendations
359	regarding the tax provided for in this part to the Revenue and Taxation Interim Committee on
360	or before the November 2008 interim meeting.
361	Section 4. Section 59-5-103.1 is enacted to read:
362	59-5-103.1. Valuation of oil or gas Deductions.
363	(1) (a) For purposes of the tax imposed under Section 59-5-102 and subject to
364	Subsection (2), the value of oil or gas shall be determined at the first point closest to the well at
365	which the fair market value for the oil or gas may be determined by:
366	(i) a sale pursuant to an arm's length contract; or

367	(ii) for a sale other than a sale described in Subsection (1)(a)(i), comparison to other
368	sales of oil or gas.
369	(b) For purposes of determining the fair market value of oil or gas under Subsection
370	(1), a person subject to a tax under Section 59-5-102 may deduct:
371	(i) processing costs from the value of:
372	(A) oil; or
373	(B) gas; and
374	(ii) (A) except as provided in Subsection (1)(b)(ii)(B), transportation costs from the
375	value of:
376	<u>(I) oil; and</u>
377	(II) gas; and
378	(B) notwithstanding Subsection (1)(b)(ii)(A), the deduction for transportation costs
379	may not exceed 50% of the value of the:
380	<u>(I) oil; or</u>
381	<u>(II) gas.</u>
382	(2) Subsection (1)(a)(ii) applies to a sale of oil or gas between:
383	(a) a parent company and a subsidiary company;
384	(b) companies wholly owned or partially owned by a common parent company; or
385	(c) companies otherwise affiliated.
386	Section 5. Section 59-5-104 is amended to read:
387	59-5-104. Statements filed Contents Falsification as perjury.
388	(1) (a) Every producer engaged in the production of oil or gas from any well or wells in
389	the state shall file with the commission, on or before June 1 of each year, on forms furnished by
390	the commission, a statement containing the [following] information required by Subsection
391	(1)(b) relating to the oil or gas:
392	(i) produced[,]; and
393	(ii) (A) saved[, and]:
394	(\underline{B}) sold; or
395	(C) transported from the [oil or gas] field where the oil or gas was produced during the
396	preceding calendar year[+].
397	(b) The statement required in Subsection (1)(a) shall include:

398	$\left[\frac{(a)}{(a)}\right]$ the name, description, and location of:
399	(A) every well or wells; and
400	(B) every field in which the well or wells are located;
401	[(b)] (ii) the number of barrels of oil, the cubic feet of gas, and quantity of other
402	hydrocarbon substances produced, including the percentage of production from lands held in
403	trust by the United States for any federally recognized Indian tribe or its members;
404	[(c)] (iii) the value of [this production at the well] the oil or gas; and
405	$\left[\frac{(d)}{(d)}\right]$ any other reasonable and necessary information required by the commission.
406	(2) The statements or reports required to be filed with the commission shall be signed
407	and sworn to by the producer or a designee.
408	(3) Any willful false swearing as to the purported material facts set out in this report
409	constitutes the crime of perjury and shall be punished as such under Title 76, Utah Criminal
410	Code.
411	Section 6. Repealer.
412	This bill repeals:
413	Section 59-5-103, Valuation of oil or gas Alternatives Exceptions
414	Controversies on value to be determined by commission.
415	Section 7. Retrospective operation.
416	This bill has retrospective operation to January 1, 2004.